

DAYTON LEGAL BLANK, INC. FORM NO. 10148

Held Monday, April 13 7:00 p.m. 20 09

CALL TO ORDER:

1. The council meeting was called to order Monday, April 13, 2009 at 7:12 p.m. by President of Council Daryl Revoldt.
2. The opening prayer was delivered by Miguel Chavez, Director of Ministry Walsh College
3. All present recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL:

4. Mr. Revoldt: Clerk, would you please call the roll.

The following members of Council responded to roll call: Davies, DeOrio, Foltz, Kiesling, Peters, Revoldt, and Snyder. Also present were: Mayor Held, Director of Administration Wise, Director of Law McFarren, Director of Finance Zumbar, Director of Economic Development Bowles, Rental Coordinator Raymond, Equipment Operator Queen and Clerk of Council Kalpac. City Engineer Benekos was not present for the meeting.

Mr. Revoldt: Now just to convolute *Roberts Rules of Order* may I have a motion to adjourn our executive session.

Mr. Davies moved and Mr. Peters seconded to adjourn the executive session. All members present voting:

Yes: DeOrio, Foltz, Kiesling, Peters, Revoldt, Snyder, Davies.

No: 0

Mr. Revoldt: And the minutes will show that we did adjourn that executive session at about 7:13 p.m.

5. Consideration

Council Meeting Minutes – March 23, 2009
Mayor's Court Receipts – February, 2009

Mr. Revoldt: We have for your consideration minutes of our council meeting of March 23 as well as the mayor's court receipts for February, 2009. Are there any corrections or amendments?

Mr. DeOrio moved and Mr. Davies seconded to approve the council meeting minutes and mayor's court receipts as presented. All members present voting:

Yes: Foltz, Kiesling, Peters, Revoldt, Snyder, Davies, DeOrio.

No: 0

6. Committee Minutes

Mr. Revoldt: We have a set of committee minutes and executive sessions for Personnel & Safety both held on April 6th; Finance & Property of March 23rd and April 6th; Community & Economic Development; Personnel & Safety; Street & Alley; and Water, Sewer & Rubbish all held on April 6th. Are there any corrections or amendments to those committee minutes?

Mr. DeOrio moved and Mr. Davies seconded to approve the executive session and committee report minutes as presented. All members present voting:

Yes: Kiesling, Peters, Revoldt, Snyder, Davies, DeOrio, Foltz.

No: 0

Community & Economic Development Committee: Please refer to the minutes on file in the Council Office for the Community & Economic Development Committee meeting held April 6, 2009.

Executive Session – Personnel & Safety Committee: Please refer to the minutes on file in the Council Office for the Executive Session for Personnel & Safety meetings both held April 6, 2009.

Finance & Property Committee: Please refer to the minutes on file in the Council Office for the Finance & Property Committee meetings held March 23, 2009 and April 6, 2009.

Personnel & Safety Committee: Please refer to the minutes on file in the Council Office for the Personnel & Safety Committee meeting held April 6, 2009.

Street & Alley Committee: Please refer to the minutes on file in the Council Office for the Street & Alley Committee meeting held April 6, 2009.

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Water, Sewer & Rubbish Committee: Please refer to the minutes on file in the Council Office for the Water, Sewer & Rubbish Committee meeting held April 6, 2009.

7. Recognition of Visitors

Mr. Revoldt: Thank you. Item 7, Recognition of Visitors, is there anyone here who wishes to address the Council? Please step forward to the microphone and state your name and address.

George Daniluk: 502 Werstler. Tonight's Ordinance 33-09 is for consideration of a tax exemption request for Acme Fresh Market and strangely enough deemed to be an emergency. This is on the agenda with little previous public discussion or debate by council as to its merits. Those who did speak out last week and attempt to defend it seemed to be struggle for a good reason to. Although hiring high school students for part-time summer work and allowing car washes in their parking lot are commendable I hardly think they qualify for a tax abatement. To those who have felt uneasy about this request and remain silent I would hope you vote according to your conscious. I assure you I will have a greater respect for those who do. The city and school system are always seeking more operating revenue yet we continue to accommodate those who ask for tax abatements or CIC help. Sometimes they are doing the asking and sometimes the city does the offering. I'm not sure which category the Acme request falls into. The City of North Canton has a program that offers a fifty (50%) percent water rate reduction for residents over the age of 65. To qualify the resident must have an annual income of \$27,000 or less. To apply for this break, along with your application, you must include a copy of your federal income tax return. This requirement of proof of income was suggested in the hope that many residents would just go away rather than bare their financial souls to City Hall for a \$10 a month savings. My point is why don't require those asking for financial help from the city submit a copy of their financial statements to prove their need for tax abatements or CIC funds. Perhaps with this requirement some of those who probe the waters for a handout will also go away rather than show their income statements. My personal opinion on this abatement request is that Acme site improvement costs can be borne by Acme without an abatement. Surely must have made a return investment study on this project. Any increase in the cost of doing business will usually be passed on to the consumer and I'm sure they will be – they will be in this case. The city and school system will have more to lose if this abatement is given than Acme has to gain with it. Acme is seeking a tax abatement to offset among other things the cost of new fixtures, inventory and increased payroll costs. This request for financial assistance in my opinion is really stretching the intent of the Community Reinvestment Area tax program. I view this abatement as a token of appreciation rather than an event that qualifies under the reinvestment program. I'm reminded of a story which I'm slightly modifying about a king who asked his accountant what was happening to all his tax money that has been collected every month. There never seemed to be enough to take care of his town people's needs. The accountant said I will try to show you. Sitting before the king and his accountant was a large round table much like this occupied by contractors, developers, union leaders, lawyers, consultants and various business reps and organizations seeking bailouts or handouts. The accountant held up a large block of ice which he said represented the king's taxes. He then handed it to the first person at the table he in turn passed it to the person beside him. It finally made its way around the table back to the accountant but the block of ice was reduced to the size of an ice cube. The accountant said to the king that sire is what happens to your taxes. The moral of the story is if you need to take care of your own needs get a bigger block of ice or fewer people at the table. Thank you.

Mr. Revoldt: Thank you Mr. Daniluk. Is there anyone else who wishes to address this? Mr. Osborne.

Chuck Osborne: My name is Chuck Osborne. 307 Fairview Street Southeast – North Canton, Ohio. My comments tonight deal with an issue I have addressed before to this council and that issue is the issue of tax abatements and how they are given out simply for the asking in North Canton. Nearly two years ago council was considering tax ... incentives for the construction of a Sherwin Williams Paint Store on Applegrove Street. In remarks – in my remarks to council regarding the tax abatement for Sherwin Williams on May 14, 2007 I said and I quote, "tax abatements for businesses in North Canton took on a whole new meaning at last Monday night's Council of the Whole meeting when Economic Development Committee Chairman Jim Repace brought to the table a request for a CRA Tax Incentive for a Sherwin Williams Paint Store on Applegrove Street, Northeast." Continuing I asked and I quote, "if the taxpayers of North Canton are now expected to subsidize public corporation traded on the New York Stock Exchange with sales last year of 7.8 million with an exemption from property taxes." The discussion of tax incentives for the Sherwin Williams Paint Store subsequently ended and the Sherwin Williams Paint Store was later construction - constructed without the need for tax incentives. Imagine that. On tonight's agenda titled as Ordinance No. 33-09 is yet another request for tax incentives for a corporation. This corporation also has sizeable annual sales and financial clout. And typical of tax abatement requests before North Canton City Council the legislation is being considered as emergency legislation. The emergency legislation is for an abatement of taxes under the city's Community Reinvestment Area tax program for remodeling and improvements that are planned at the Acme Fresh Market Store located on North Main Street. The store is operated by the Fred W.

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Albrecht Grocery Company. The Fred W. Albrecht Grocery Company is a privately owned corporation that has sales in excess of 400 million dollars a year. I am gratified that the Acme Fresh Market store here in North Canton is going to be remodeled and expanded and I look forward to the expanded services that the new Acme will provide to me and the community. But are the – are the tax incentives actually needed in this situation? As I stated in my opening statement, tax abatements are given out simply for the asking in North Canton and they have not been a factor in any of the decisions by businesses who have received them to invest in the city. They have been an afterthought and simply a handout. In the case of the Fred W. Albrecht Grocery Company the tax incentives being offered are more than a handout. Last Tuesday I met with the representatives of the Fred W. Albrecht Grocery Company at the company headquarters in Akron. In that meeting the company's secretary/treasurer told me that Albrecht Grocery Company does not generally ask for tax incentives and in regards to the planned improvements of their Acme store here in North Canton the city simply offered the tax abatement incentives carte blanche with no questions asked. Sort of last - like last week's council meeting when not one single council member posed a single question regarding the request for tax incentives. The secretary/treasurer for the Albrecht Grocery Company advised me that tax incentives offered to the company have no bearing on the plans for the remodeling and improvements being made to the Acme Fresh Market on North Main. Do I need to refresh everyone's mind that North Canton is still facing a fiscal crisis. President Revoldt in Town Hall meetings has indicated that the city could face fiscal emergency and state takeover of the city's finances. Has anyone forgotten the one million plus deficit that the city is facing for 2010 and beyond? And what is truly sad in terms of each and every one of these tax abatements is the fact that the majority of the tax monies that this council is talking of abating are funds destined for the North Canton City Schools. Is anyone on this council aware of the financial constraints that the North Canton City School District is facing over the next three years? The North Canton Education Association has just been told the following in a recent meeting of its members: for the school year 2009-2010 if the district is able to trim this year's expenditure by 1.5 million dollars the school district can end the school year with a 2.4 million carryover. For the school year 2010-2011 the carryover will have dwindled to \$660,000. For the school year 2011-2012 the North Canton School District expects a deficit of 1.7 million dollars. In last week's Council of the Whole meeting Finance Chairman, Jon Snyder, remarked that the dollar amounts that have been abated in previous tax abatements by council were insignificant. Mr. Snyder, the only thing insignificant about the amounts of those tax abatements is how insignificant the tax incentives were in persuading those businesses to locate – locate and build in North Canton. The tax abatements given in this city are corporate charity and they take away money from the North Canton City School District and if this council continues to hand them out like party favors you will drive the city's school district into budget deficits that we now face in the City of North Canton. Mr. Snyder, an abatement of \$6,600 a year on property taxes for a corporation that does 400 million a year in sales is insignificant. Downsizing the City of North Canton and the North Canton City School District is not insignificant. Last Friday I delivered a letter to the President of the Fred W. Albrecht Grocery Company, Steve Albrecht, asking him to decline the city's offer for tax incentives. I am appealing to his moral sense of duty for a community that is in deep financial distress. Lastly, I must say that I am disheartened that no one in North Canton City Government knows that his fiduciary responsibility is to the citizens and taxpayers of this city first and foremost. Offering tax abatements just because you can clearly is irresponsible. I am hoping that the Fred W. Albrecht Grocery Company is a good corporate citizen and will be a strong supporter of our community and decline the offer of tax incentives. The North Canton City Schools need all the money they can collect and most certainly the City of North Canton needs all the revenue it can collect. I was very dumbfounded that not one single person on this council and I guess I must pass on the representative from the Albrecht Grocery Company, there were no questions. Not a single question. Not a single inquiry addressed to him last week. Everyone sat here on their thumbs. And to make matters even worse Mr. Revoldt, the President of Council, gladly added let's make our tax abatements even easier and no longer require job creation we'll just look at the dollars and see if you've increased your – your dollar amounts on your payroll. This is not benefiting the City of North Canton. Thank you.

Mr. Revoldt: Mrs. Burnett. Excuse me Mr. Lindower, Mrs. Burnett is next ...

Mr. Lindower (speaking from the audience): Oh I'm sorry...

Mr. Revoldt: and you will follow her.

Mrs. Burnett: I am a member of the CRA. I have – I know what Eric Bowles has done for this community through CRA. It has the prerogative to help an establishment like the Acme store. I think that you should pay very careful attention to what Eric has done and what CRA is contributing to this community. I disagree completely with what Mr. Osborne has said and he knows this is not the first time that I've done that. I guess that you know where I stand I hope you will continue to support what Eric has done for this community and his recommendations. Thank you.

Mr. Revoldt: Thank you Mrs. Burnett. Mr. Lindower.

Dave Lindower: Hi, I'm Dave Lindower: 908 7th Street Northeast. I have a couple of issues that I have brought with me tonight. I didn't bring a whole two pages full of notes or anything. But I'd like to address eight elected officials on this council right now, basically. I want to – any comments that I make or receive in response I feel that should be put on record and that's the reason why I'm here tonight rather than contacting individuals separately and trying to get responses from them. Mayor

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Held said on WHBC last week, I happened to hear, that things were getting better in the city. I would obviously like everyone else was happy to hear a statement like that except I would like to ask Mayor Held could you elaborate on that a little bit? What's getting better financially?

Mayor Held: Well I think that – am I allowed to answer right now.

Mr. Revoldt: No.

Mr. Lindower: Well that figures. Okay.

Mr. Revoldt: No. Dave, let me answer – let me ask – answer your question directly. The Mayor is referring to an economic development prospect that has yet to be announced. And the agreement with that prospect and the other parties is that that announcement will be made I believe this week. Correct Mayor?

Mayor Held: That's what we were hoping to do. We're still finalizing some of the details

Mr. Revoldt: Yes.

Mayor Held: But that's correct.

Mr. Revoldt: And so I, excuse me.

Mayor Held: I'm sorry.

Mr. Revoldt: So part of and I want to come back – part of a good economic development strategy is when the city enters into discussions with a business that is considering or contemplating relocation to this city or establishment of presence here ...

Mr. Lindower: I understand.

Mr. Revoldt: And the agreement is confidentially until date certain. We are obligated to honor that commitment.

Mr. Lindower: I understand that.

Mr. Revoldt: It's not that we - I wish to evade.

Mr. Lindower: Yea, I understand that Daryl.

Mr. Revoldt: It's simply that the commitment was made that it would be announced on date certain.

Mr. Lindower: I wasn't speaking so much of economic development or contracts or deals.

Mr. Revoldt: Well then go ahead and pin him down.

Mr. Lindower: I'm talking – well I won't even put the Mayor on the spot on that.

Mayor Held: No it's – I don't mind I mean if you have a question I'd rather you ask it.

Mr. Lindower: You were going to – you were going to call me a month or so ago and then two weeks ago and so forth ...

Mayor Held: Right.

Mr. Lindower: and I haven't heard from you so that's the reason why I brought it up tonight.

Mayor Held: Yea, that's fine, ask me whatever question you like.

Mr. Lindower: Okay, a couple other things that I'd like to talk about and here again and I don't want to get in depth I realize you're strained for time here and I don't know if somebody is going to throw rocks at me if I spend more than five minutes up here or not. But quarter percent tax increase that's been shoved down our throat by the County Commissioners, I as well as a lot of other people are in the process of getting petitions signed against that to have it put on a ballot. Now that's not to say that I disagree with it. I agree with the quarter percent sales tax provided it's used for what the public thinks it's being used for and that would be the improvements of 911 which obviously needs it, I have no problem with that and the county coffers for their budgetary problems. However, there's money there that nobody's talking about and that's the communications system. I'm going to bring that up again. I'd like to know where we stand as far as consideration on that removing the communication system from our safety services.

Mr. Revoldt: I'll answer your question. No decision has been made.

Mr. Lindower: Well okay, I figured that's the answer.

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Mr. Revoldt: And no decision means that the status quo remains in place.

Mr. Lindower: Okay, then that's good. I'm glad to hear that. The problem that I have with it Daryl is the fact that the County Commissioners, the Sheriff, and a handful of fire chiefs in Stark County have had the move on for many years to take total control of the safety services in Stark County and the operation of those by using 911 as a cover up on that thing. 911 has got nothing to do with the communication services. 911 is telephonic communications and computers. The communication systems we're talking about not only in North Canton but some of the other smaller departments are two-way radio communications. So there's no tie there whatsoever. However, they need the funding to equip another building with radio communications equipment so that they can take these smaller agencies out of service. I don't want to see that happen here in North Canton. As a matter of fact if there's anything I can do to it I'll stop it. I really don't want to delve into too many other issues. I'm probably going to end up being a pain in the neck to you. I've got quite a few things that are bothering me. I've held off for reasons before coming and addressing the council with some of those issues for personal reasons. However I don't have to worry about those reasons any more and I'm going to tell it like it is. I'm going to talk to these people at any of these meetings that I can get to as far as this communication system is concerned and the deception that's being put upon the public with the 911 snow - smoke screen. So I just - I just want you to be aware of that. If there's any questions that anybody has to ask me about that, I saw the 911 system created when it first came into operation. I saw it grow and I saw the problems they had. The City of North Canton had to build a total GEO system for our computer system so that it would work with the 911 system. They definitely need upgrades as far as their equipment and they definitely need further training for their operators. I have no problem with that whatsoever. But don't use that as a cover up to try to take the communication center out of this city. I'm not here to speak for Greens - for Greentown and Hartville and Louisville and some of the other departments they've - they're dealing with their issues themselves. Alliance is one of the cities that's really upset over this. Centralized dispatching is not a good idea. I know people who are in that business and I know people who are having problems with it and I understand what they're telling me as far as their problems. I've done some communication work myself. And the fact that you've got a big corporate organization that's going to make millions of dollars off of selling eight hundred megahertz trunking systems to all these communities bothers me because there's too many people and not to hold it against you folks or anybody else, but there are a lot of people that don't understand that. All they have to do is say we're going to save you time and money and it's going to be better and it's not. But once it's gone it won't come back. So keep that in mind if in fact it does - the issue does come up or there's discussion further on it I'd like to have a little input on it anyway. Yea Daryl, you look like you have a question.

Mr. Revoldt: I have a comment when you're concluded.

Mr. Lindower: Go ahead.

Mr. Revoldt: When you are finished.

Mr. Lindower: I am finished.

Mr. Revoldt: Okay. Dave, this is an issue that was briefly discussed many months ago. I believe you may have been in the audience when Mr. Gonzales was present. And I can't - I don't pretend to speak for Council but I can imagine what they're thinking. First of all in terms of our dispatch communications itself we've had no discussions per say in terms of altering the current status. We have had some and it is reflected in our budget that it could go away, but we have not made a decision to make it go away and roll it over to this new system. Part of that discussion will be the intangible value of having our own dispatch which you've discussed or alluded to. That is a conversation this council will have and make a decision on at some future point. Number two is communications equipment has to work beyond any reasonable doubt. It must work for our safety forces.

Mr. Lindower: Definitely.

Mr. Revoldt: And I don't believe that council if it has reservations will move to a system in which it or our safety forces have doubts about. That conversation again has yet to occur.

Mr. Lindower: If I could interject there the people for - and I won't name the corporation I know who they are, the people who are trying sell this equipment are going to tell you guaranteed it will work. The Stark County Sheriff's Department for instance went through this dilemma where they said oh it's going to work. They put the system in and it only cost them a couple more million dollars to put more towers up. You know how are these people or how are you qualified enough to say that it is going to work? Cause somebody will tell you...

Mr. Revoldt: Dave, I just go into these with a fair degree of skepticism like no money down home mortgages. It doesn't work.

Mr. Lindower: Well...

Mr. Revoldt: We'll have that discussion.

Mr. Lindower: Okay. The only concern I have again Daryl, and again I don't want to try to buck the system on everything you're trying to do, I don't want to see our city reduced - let's say our safety

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service of all – reduced because of the fact that we're using the excuse that we've got a budgetary problem. I understand that. Everyone has budget problems right now, but I still say the city has some places that they can look to save some money at. And until you've exhausted every single effort that you can it's unfair for you to even think about something like that. Thank you - appreciate it.

Mr. Revoldt: Duly noted. Thank you.

Mayor Held: Thank you.

Mr. Revoldt: Is there anyone else who wishes to address the council? Mr. Knepp, welcome.

Bill Knepp: Hi, my name is Bill Knepp. I live at 519 Bachtel Street Southeast. I'm not here for no tax abatement or anything like that. I'm just here to complain about my tax money what's being used for as for trash pickup. On our street we got a letter back in October of last year that they're going to change our days around for trash pickup, which was fine. They changed from Tuesdays to Thursdays. Well since that time, they have forgot to pick our trash up a couple times which was understandable because they were new I guess and they didn't have enough trucks to go around. But this past Thursday they forgot to pick it up again which was the second time within the last six weeks they forgot to pickup our recycled stuff. And they not only forgot – they forget the whole street. And the way they redid everything from the letter they said they wanted to reconstruct everything because it would save fuel costs and stuff like that and be a little bit - be a little more organized. I think they're so disorganized now than they ever have been. Ours is the only street east, west, north that has on southeast that has trash on Thursdays. Everybody else is picked up on the other days. And they just – seems to me like some days they just come up to Pershing turn around and go back down or go – and sometimes they just forget the whole street of Bachtel Street Souteast. I've already called Administration a couple times and - well first time it happened I called J&J cause they had a number on there that said call them so I called them. They told me that – they asked me where I lived and I told them. They said well you live in the City of North Canton. I said yes. They said well you have to call administration. I said but you guys are the ones picking the trash up. Well you still have to call administration. I said alright fine. So I called administration. Administration had to make a phone call on my behalf that they forgot to pick the trash up. They came down. And so this is what's been going on now and I'm just saying I think next time their contract comes up you ought to just overlook these guys. Because I'm at the point now and I think the neighbors are at the point this recyclable stuff and picking our trash up is getting a little ridiculous.

Mayor Held: Right

Mr. Knepp: You can take the blue buckets and take them back.

Mayor Held: Right.

Mr. Knepp: Because it's just getting terrible.

Mayor Held: Yea.

Mr. Revoldt: Let's do this, would you be kind enough to document the dates that your trash from here on forward is not picked up so that becomes part of our records. When council considers this contract we'll have some ...

Mr. Knepp: I can do that...

Mr. Revoldt: some record.

Mr. Knepp: Administration does ...

Mr. Revoldt: I hate to put that on you but...

Mr. Knepp: Yea, but the administration...

Mr. Wise: What's your address, sir?

Mayor's Office, does have the...

Mr. Wise: What's your address?

Mr. Knepp: 519 Bachtel Street. It's at the corner of Woodside and Bachtel Street.

Mr. Osborne (speaking from the audience): We're having the same problem on Fairview.

Mr. Knepp: Yea, there's probably other places that they come down they ... So, thank you.

Mr. Revoldt: Okay, are we finished on the public comments? Are we finished on the public comments? Is there anyone who wishes to respond to any of the comments made this evening?

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Mr. DeOrio: Mr. President, I think I would like to respond on the tax abatement issue...
Mr. Revoldt: Please.

Mr. DeOrio: but I think I'll just hold that until – that's the first item on our business...
Mr. Revoldt: Alright.

Mr. DeOrio: But I do want to be heard before you do anything.

Mr. Revoldt: Alright, very good. If I may and I don't want to steal any thunder from you but first of all is Chuck as is characteristic you have done a fairly good job twisting the facts a tad. And tonight while we do have an emergency clause in the ordinance you referenced, the discussion last week was that we would give it only a first reading this evening and that is consistent with my notes here at the table. The second point that I would like to make is that we provide - the city provides abatements for good reason. Let me speak to the obvious, Albrecht is making a 1.2 million dollar investment during a period of recession. It is going to add a nominal number of jobs. We see that. The fact of the matter is the abatement constitutes about a two (2%) percent discount on the project cost and in terms of economic development that is a relatively modest form of assistance to the company. But I would submit and I can't speak for abatements made over the last six or seven years but I can tell you this, that communities look for ways to demonstrate that they are business friendly. This is a very important message to communicate to companies investing or looking to locate in their communities. Certainly we have the option of subjecting everyone to a big grilling or to deny it. But the fact of the matter is this is a good project. And I think we worked very hard over the last 18 months to demonstrate that this community is business friendly. And that's what a minor abatement – a modest CRA abatement has done. Some projects have gone forward without assistance or a request some have gotten a large amount, but at each and every turn Chuck I have found you unwilling to support anything that helps make us a little more competitive, this one of those smaller examples. I am deeply touched by your eloquent remarks about the plight of the schools. And so tonight I will ask you to surrender the abatement on your home that you have, if it's good for the goose, it's good for the gander. And so next time we vote if you have provided us with a written – I would encourage you to provide us with a written forbearance of the CRA agreement we granted to you.

Mr. Osborne: Can I respond?

Mr. Revoldt: No. No, I have the chair.
Mr. Osborne (speaking from audience): Inaudible...

Mr. Revoldt: I know – Chuck, please I listened for an extended period of time. But you have taken an abatement on the improvements on your home. I don't believe anyone asked you for a 1040. It was granted to as a symbol and reflection to encourage people to invest in residential property in North Canton, which you did and for which frankly we are grateful. It is a fine thing that you've done. We need that investment commercially, we need it residentially and you have taken advantage of it. But if you have a problem with it then I expect you sir to stand by the principle, no abatement. Whether we agree or disagree you will surrender the abatement, your call. Now ...

Mr. Osborne (speaking from the audience): May I respond when you are done?
Mr. Revoldt: No, no. Mr. DeOrio.

Mr. DeOrio: Thank you sir. I think it should be noted for the record that having been honored by the Mayor to have participated in the Tax Incentive Review Council. The first - my first term on council I sat on that group when this abatement came before us. And as and I recall and Eric please jump in if I'm – if my memory is straying too much, but the difference you know between a commercial CRA and a residential application for CRA, on the residential side I don't believe that the TIRC even has the authority to grant it. I think it was - the way the law was written that it's the one person who's the head of it. Our point person in the law which is the Economic Development Director is the person who decides that and he decided to do that. And I'm sure that there was probably a lot of thought about that by a lot of different people at the time. But he approved that. I commend him for that. The other difference is it that means doesn't come before this group. There's no chance to criticize or vet as we are hearing Mr. Osborne do towards other groups that have to go through this vetting process. On the residential side there is none of that vetting process. So it's not even the same standard that you're held to. It's easy to I think apply for something and then know that there's not going to be any scrutiny or criticism because he met the eligibility requirements, he was entitled to it, he got it. It was – but if that process would involve coming here before that I'm sure some people might not even want to apply for it. It would retard the whole purpose of the program.

Mr. Snyder: Mr. DeOrio, Mr. President, Mr. DeOrio is right on one thing you cannot refuse a resident CRA application by Ohio law. But it does go before the CRA board; I believe there's three citizens and a member of council...

Mr. DeOrio: I don't - I think that was changed ...inaudible...

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Mr. Snyder: It may have been since I served on it.

Mr. Bowles: There ...

Mr. DeOrio: I could be wrong.

Mr. Bowles: If I may, the CRA Housing Council they do the annual review of the residential CRA's. But under the Ordinance 22-99, as the Housing Officer, if somebody applies for and they meet the criteria set by Ordinance 22-99 I have to approve and certify that. So as long as the improvements are above the dollar value which is \$25,000 or 50,000 for a two family, as long as they meet that. And frequently I will make sure if the homeowner is the - the types of improvements are going to receive some type of exemption. For instance if somebody is doing windows and doors and a roof and a new driveway and even though that may cost more than \$25,000, that's not likely to get an exemption. However, adding onto a house whether it's an addition, adding more square footage or a garage or something of that nature. So under the ordinance if it's over \$25,000 then you know I'm required to certify it. Now for the industrial and commercial CRA's that has to go before council and those are approved on a case by case basis.

Mr. Snyder: You're telling me the CRA commission does not review residential CRA requests?

Mr. Bowles: The CRA Housing Council only reviews once a year for the state requirements to make sure that the properties are being maintained ...

Mr. Snyder: At what point was it just given that unilateral privilege to one person to decide? It was done originally - the intent of the original ordinance when I served on that commission when it was started, was the council looked at those when they were applied for. At what point was that changed?

Mr. Bowles: Well we weren't operating by state law at the time. Under the Housing Council when I came in we actually did an agreement for one of the CRA's early on, but we were not operating - and this was after we had conversations with the folks at the State of Ohio at the time. The only purpose for the Housing Council is to meet once a year to review the residential CRA's. And as Housing Officer as long as the certain criteria are met then they get the exemption; whereas, it's a councilmanic action for the residential and the commercial CRA's.

Mr. Snyder: Thank you.

Mr. Revoldt: Thank you. You know just one other final point Chuck, last week's discussion in terms of how we evaluate the CRA and I want to make this point, there is a debate, there is a discussion whether one should look at raw job creation or whether one should have a wage target. There are compelling arguments for having a wage target, particularly in a community where we might attract businesses that have relatively few jobs associated with the project but high wages. The state for example on its Job Creation Tax Credit does make a distinction when it looks at ten (10) high wage jobs or twenty-five (25) more modestly priced jobs. Typically the threshold is twenty-five (25), but if you have ten (10) really high wage jobs then one is open for application for that tax credit. There is a discussion within the state about simply moving to calculating high wages. There is some merit to that argument. And if you will recall and I'd like the record to reflect, I believe I asked Eric to look into the matter and that's where we left it. So ...

Mr. Osborne: May I comment now?

Mr. Revoldt: No.

Mr. Osborne: This is not being fair.

Mr. Revoldt: Excuse me.

Mr. Osborne: You're all sitting here taking potshots and I don't get a chance to clarify?

Mr. Revoldt: Mr. Osborne you have not been potshotted. We do have a final call for business. I'll let you formulate your thoughts. With characteristic eloquence I'm sure you'll present them and you'll be recognized at that time. But until then I'd like to move on to new business (old business) as we have none.

OLD BUSINESS:

8. None

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NEW BUSINESS:

9. Mr. Revoldt: May I have a motion to read by title only, first reading of Ordinance No. 33-09?

Mrs. Kiesling moved and Mr. DeOrio seconded to **read by title only, first reading of Ordinance No. 33-09.** All members present voting:

Yes: Peters, Revoldt, Snyder, DeOrio, Foltz, Kiesling.

No: 0

Abstained: Davies

Ordinance No. 33-09 – 1st Reading – Community & Economic Development

An ordinance authorizing an agreement with The Fred W. Albrecht Grocery Company dba Acme Fresh Market #16 providing for a project and real property tax exemption pursuant to the Ohio Community Reinvestment Area Program, and declaring the same to be an emergency.

Mr. Revoldt: Mrs. Kiesling.

Mrs. Kiesling: Yes, this is on the 1.2 million dollar reinvestment into the Acme store. We are giving an abatement for fifty (50%) percent for ten (10) years. I cannot remember how many full-time and part-time employees they're thinking of but I know they're putting in a clinic with a nurse practitioner and another part-time employee – two and two, two full-time; two part-time. Just putting in a new clinic and a new venue in the grocery store I think is – falls under the Community Reinvestment Act alone, so I'm very excited, but they're going to start this project and I'm thrilled that we're to offering them their fifty (50%) percent for ten (10) years. Any questions, concerns, comments?

Mr. Revoldt: Comments, Mr. DeOrio.

Mr. DeOrio: Yes, if I may get into this just a little bit more then. You know for those that you know have an interest in it – you know I certainly don't - it doesn't sit with me well when I hear comments Chuck, that like you all sat up here and didn't say anything. And you know you and I've talked about sometimes about that before. Sometimes it's a difference of style in how we do things. I tend to and I'm just speaking as one individual, want to gather information first. I want to maul it over a little bit. There's plenty of time for discussion as we're – as evidencing itself now. It doesn't necessarily have to be in a committee or Council of the Whole forum, it can occur later. You know so I can't speak for everybody else but I you know there is always – there could be a reason why somebody doesn't say anything, particularly at the Council of the Whole meeting. Me I like to - and I explained why I like to do that. So I'd you know I think that as you address these things in the future I would encourage you not to use such a broad brush but maybe fine tune your points there. To me it seems that the Acme thing, this abatement is you know the sum of the parts seems to be greater than the whole. I think we've had an analysis provided to us from the Economic Development Director it's - it would appear as I have read it that granting the abatement is going to create more revenue for the city and for the schools over time. And the schools, as I understand it you know have signed off on this. I think if Mr. Gallina was adamantly opposed we certainly would have heard something about it. So there's all the reasons out there to support it. I think the movement of dollars targets instead of job targets is a smart move it gives you the flexibility to lure maybe some businesses that didn't feel they could meet the specific numbers but could meet the payroll, those are all good things. Going back a little bit though and I was wondering when the Sherwin Williams request had been made so I appreciate Mr. Osborne helping me remember that if that was this present council that I'm on or the previous council. And I was opposed to that at that time and as I recollect the theory that or reasoning that I had is one that I still have today. So I have, in spite of all the good things that have been said here and about how much I like the Acme Corporation and shop there all the time, is trying to weigh around this philosophy that I have and that is that I felt that the application or the granting of these dollars towards a project were more in line with is this the deciding factor that gets the project to happen. Is this what makes it go, the application of doing it or not doing it. And with the Sherwin Williams it seemed to me at the time that they were already committed to doing the project and whether we granted it or not the project on the surface appeared that it was already going forward. And so I don't know all the background here how this process originated with this application, I've heard you know what Mr. Osborne said, but you know it seemed to me that you know when the liquor option was approved and they were going to be allowed to sell spiritous beverages there and being shopping there that there was an expansion that was necessarily going to come. And if the application for the abatement is an after thought to that or occurred after the seemingly the commitment to make this expansion decision was made I don't think that that flushes with what my philosophy is on this abatement. It just - and you know maybe that's just having only been around the block three years, I don't know. I don't have as much prospective. But – and the ones that we looked at from before the Sherwin Williams ones was the one that just stood out as - that project was going forward no matter what we did. And it seems to me that that is the case with this one on

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the face of it. And I may not have all the information. I'm glad that we're not reading for a final reading tonight because I think I still need some more information and clarification on that.

Mr. Snyder: Mr. President, if I may. Madam Chairman, the problem is on the Sherwin Williams, Mr. DeOrio you are right, that was by the developer himself it was not by the corporation, they requested that tax abatement. It would of immured to the rent factor to developer not - the corporation did not request a CRA abatement. Relative to this Fred Albrecht, this mirrors another situation we had a couple years ago and it's starting to border on torturous interference in a person's ability to conduct private business. And I would caution us that we go very lightly on some of the accusations we're making without - I know Steve Albrecht personally I intend to call him tomorrow because I am sure once it gets in the paper they're not going to appreciate that type of adversity that they're going to have to experience. So I mean this thing is just becoming as one came on Main Street once before. And it - we very fortunately we got through that without getting sued. So we don't want to begin to do that. And so I don't know at this point what - who said what or what Mr. Bowles said to them or not. But Mr. DeOrio points out a very good point, it's a very good thing. It's something that we may have to look at but maybe with some more information.

Mr. Revoldt: Any other comments?

Mr. Davies: Briefly, I'm abstaining because we have business conflicts, their business conflicts with my business so I thought it best I do that. However, I know Chuck, you emphasized several times that they gross 400,000,000, but you didn't tell us what they net and that's really the important figure. Grocery stores particularly work on very slim margins. So 400 - 400,000,000 is a lot of money but what they actually end up with is a lot less than that. And I would say you know given the economy the way it is and the competitiveness of grocery stores they've been a big asset to North Canton for many years and provided jobs and provided a great place to shop with decent prices and so forth. And as Daryl said you know try to be business friendly to them I think it's a good thing to do. I'm sorry but I don't think it's - I don't we've been neglectant I think we're trying to help out a good business friend in the city. And I think it's a wise thing to do given where you know the economy is and where North Canton is and so forth.

Mr. Revoldt: Administration.

Mayor Held: Yes obviously I support this because I think that what we really have to conscious of here in North Canton is that we do need to be business friendly. And we need to make certain that we're doing everything that we can to bring new businesses into the city but at the same time keep the businesses that we have. And I think that we have to assess each situation independently and make a full assessment and then make a decision and move ahead. Our Eric - Eric Bowles I think he's done a real nice job in providing information and I support and certainly would recommend moving ahead with this.

Mr. Revoldt: Just one final thought before we vote and this goes back to my comment about being business friendly. We need to replace about 3,000 jobs in this community. We need to find real investment in this community. I think Jon put his finger on it and perhaps gave my reference to being business friendly, plays upon the dilemma that I face - that we all face here. On one hand we want to encourage public dialogue and in fact criticism of our conduct. The flip of that is as that criticism plays out in the newspaper or in the media will an investor - a potential investor in our community see us as a place where maybe they don't care to do business; it's a hassle and a headache, an embarrassment. And there's a fine line in that discussion. And I think the only thing that concerns me Chuck and you will have your comment at the end of our meeting, is that when we take a business to task what does that telegraph to someone else who wants to come to this community. This group has worked very hard over the last year and a half to be business friendly, to invite investment and we are seeing the fruit of that effort. We need to be careful and balance our conversation. I don't have the answer Chuck to how we balance your concern and our desire to prevent embarrassing companies investing in our community. Good question. May I have a motion to adopt the first reading of Ordinance 33-09?

Mr. Foltz moved and Mr. DeOrio seconded to **adopt the first reading** of Ordinance No. 33-09. All members present voting:

Yes: Revoldt, Snyder, Foltz, Kiesling, Peters.

No: 0

Abstained: Davies

Present: DeOrio

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10. Mr. Revoldt: Item 10, a motion to read by title only, first reading of Ordinance 34-09.

Mr. Foltz moved and Mr. DeOrio seconded to **read by title only, first reading** of Ordinance No. 34-09. All members present voting:

Yes: Snyder, Davies, DeOrio, Foltz, Kiesling, Peters, Revoldt.

No: 0

Ordinance No. 34-09 – 1st Reading - Water, Sewer & Rubbish

An ordinance approving, confirming and accepting a thirty (30') foot Perpetual Water Utility Easement Agreement by and between the City of North Canton, an Ohio Municipality, ("Grantee") and Faith Family Church ("Grantor").

Mr. Revoldt: Mr. Davies.

Mr. Davies: This is an ordinance as it says establishing a thirty (30') foot perpetual water utility easement agreement, I believe at a cost of \$1.00 to the city. Is that correct?

Mr. Wise: Yes.

Mr. Davies: It was put in by the developer. The road was supposed to have been dedicated, it never was so we have to go back and get the easement so we can maintain it and so forth. And I would move that we pass.

Mr. Davies moved and Mrs. Kiesling seconded to **adopt the first reading** of Ordinance No. 34-09. All members present voting:

Yes: Davies, DeOrio, Foltz, Kiesling, Peters, Revoldt, Snyder.

No: 0

11. Mr. Revoldt: Item 11, a motion to read by title only, first reading of Ordinance 35-09.

Mrs. Kiesling moved and Mr. DeOrio seconded to **read by title only, first reading** of Ordinance No. 35-09. All members present voting:

Yes: DeOrio, Foltz, Kiesling, Peters, Revoldt, Snyder, Davies.

No: 0

Ordinance No. 35-09 – 1st Reading – Finance & Property

An ordinance accepting the recommendations of the City of North Canton Tax Incentive Review Council ("TIRC"), concerning the agreements granting exemptions from property taxation, to continue seven (7) of the existing and modify one (1) of the Community Reinvestment Area ("CRA") agreements.

Mr. Revoldt: Mr. Snyder.

Mr. Snyder: We talked about this last week. Of the existing ones that we have we're asking that they be renewed with the exception of Viking Glass and that be modified. When Viking Glass was originally brought I believe it was to be eleven (11) employees and they have seven (7) and with the do not call order they've closed that call center. However, their payroll has exceeded the original expectation. Their present increase in payroll since they were given the modification is 100 – if my memory serves me about \$137,000 of new payroll. Their amount of their tax abatement is about \$280 per year. So their payroll tax relative to the 280 which the city would receive about ten (10%) percent is roughly \$28. So their payroll tax is more than - and that is in with full agreement of Mr. Gallina he does sit on the TIRC. I had that conversation with him and he is very supportive of all CRA agreements for the simple fact that he knows most of them for a five (5) year period some of them for a ten (10) year period but the only portion of it that gets abated is the actual new construction. The existing taxes remain the same. So and with the hopes of replacing some of the money he's lost across the street. That's about it on those. All of them are in compliance. All of them are current on their taxes. One of them is in a tax paying agreement and they are timely at this present time.

Mr. Revoldt: Any other questions or comments. Seeing none - then a motion to adopt the first reading of Ordinance 35-09.

Mr. DeOrio moved and Mrs. Kiesling seconded to **adopt the first reading** of Ordinance No. 35-09. All members present voting:

Yes: Foltz, Kiesling, Peters, Revoldt, Snyder, Davies, DeOrio.

No: 0

REPORTS:

Mr. Revoldt: Reports – Director of Law.

Mr. McFarren: None.

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Mr. Revoldt: Director of Finance.

Mr. Zumbar: If you've been visiting City Hall obviously this week we've had long lines for the income tax filings that are going on. We expect that to dwindle after the 15th. However, things will still pickup because we move right into the pool passes. So please bear with us we're doing the best that we can. Some of the staff do have to stay afterwards because we want to balance and as a result that will incur some overtime for the Income Tax Department. So I just want to make sure folks are aware of that and council is also aware of that. But I will try to do my best to limit the overtime.

Mr. Revoldt: Questions or comments? Director of Administration.

Mr. Wise: Yes, I'd like to thank council again. Several weeks ago or maybe even longer than that ago you approved legislation for us to hire an assistant fire chief. We have done that – sworn in Assistant Fire Chief Ron Feller a long time part-time employee for the Fire Department. He is doing a wonderful job. In fact just last week we had a little issue, maybe a personality conflict, but the person came directly to me – I indicated – I spoke with him – I indicated that you know there's a chain of command and talk to the Assistant Fire Chief. He did in fact talk have an opportunity to speak to the Assistant Fire Chief. Sat down with the Fire Chief and that one small issue was worked out. But exactly the type of thing we were talking about. And appreciate council's assistance in that. Thank you.

Mr. Revoldt: Mayor.

Mayor Held: Yes, the Board of Control did vote today to approve our insurance. And the good news is because of the efforts of our Finance Director, he hired a consultant to help facilitate this process, his name was David Hazen and we're going to realize a savings of \$90,000 over the next three years for our insurance. So that \$30,000 a year and we're going to increase our coverage in some areas. So very nice job. That's all.

Mr. Revoldt: General liability?

Mr. Wise: Yes.

Mr. Zumbar: It was a combined effort E.J. and I both worked on this project and E.J. should get some of the credit as well.

Mr. Revoldt: Good. Mr. Bowles.

Mr. Bowles: Just a couple comments. First off I want to let council know that we did receive our extension agreement for Waterside. That project was delayed due to the 404 permit from the Army Corp of Engineers – we received that today. It's been reviewed by the Law Director and the Mayor will sign that. So we're good from that project. We can extend that to 12/31 of this year. Of course I think the Finance or the City Engineer expects that project to be done around July. So we'll be moving on with that. Also I want to make sure I thank council, past councils and members of council that have served on the Housing Council and the TIRC in the past. Certainly that's kind of a thankless job. You know over the years this city and the time I've been with the city the city has approved three CRA agreements; we have a total of ten (10). That's certainly not a large number of agreements by any stretch of the imagination. And by virtue by the type of commercial that we have in North Canton – we don't have large industrial like I've had in other communities I've worked in where you're offering tax exemptions on two or three million dollars of real property improvements for "x" number of jobs. So I want to make sure I thank council for that. I believe that the city's program was pretty successful before my arrival. I think the city's continued that. To date we're over 3.2 million dollars in new payroll attributed to the CRA program and a little over 300,000 in new taxes paid – well the actual forgone tax is to all the tax payers are a little bit over \$99,000 with a total project investment coming close to six million dollars, plus or minus. So I think that's a very very modest program and I would thank the members of council that have served on that in the past. And like I said I know that's kind of a thankless job but appreciate your work and your reviews.

Mr. Revoldt: Clerk.

Mrs. Kalpac: No report. Thank you.

REPORTS – COUNCIL:

Mr. Revoldt: Mr. Foltz.

Mr. Foltz: No report.

Mr. Revoldt: Mr. Peters.

Mr. Peters: No report, sir.

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Mr. Revoldt: Mr. Davies.
Mr. Davies: No report.

Mr. Revoldt: Mr. DeOrio.
Mr. DeOrio: Thank you, no report.

Mr. Revoldt: Mrs. Kiesling.
Mrs. Kiesling: No report.

Mr. Revoldt: Mr. Snyder.

Mr. Snyder: Mr. President, one question I did want to bring up originally. Possibly are we able to impose that yearly fee to review the CRA agreements, I guess it's around \$750, on any new ones. Maybe that possibly would eliminate some of the contentiousness of some of those smaller ones...

Mr. Bowles: Council...

Mr. Snyder: I mean not the existing ones but going forward where - I think it's around \$750.

Mr. Bowles: Right it's \$500, 750 is the yearly application fee. The minimum is \$500 or a maximum of \$2,500 based on one (1%) percent of the taxes saved. Council would have to amend the 22-99 that ordinance that waived the monitoring fees. The monitoring fees were imposed - put in as a result of 1994 when the state legislature received a lot of complaints post Senate Bill 93, I believe, something like that. And so the - a lot of the communities were complaining it was an unfunded mandate and communities were required to do all this monitoring at no way of paying for the staff time. I don't know - I'm guessing that the feeling at the time council passed the 22-99 that they wanted to help the smaller businesspeople. And as you alluded to that some of the agreements would never have been approved because the monitoring fees would have exceeded the tax savings.

Mr. Snyder: Well the original agreement put in - present was the mayor at the time if he recalls we negotiated with the Viking Ltd. that was the only way we possibly put that building together and put that project together. That's the reason we initially put it in. It wasn't designed to take it to the level it's at today. But I wonder if we - you may get a little research on that and pass that to Chairman Kiesling and maybe we could look at that. I don't necessarily mean that she's looking for something else to do but ...

Mrs. Kiesling: It could be under Finance Committee.

Mr. Snyder: Inaudible... a little reading material ...
Mrs. Kiesling: Sure, no problem.

Mr. Snyder: Thank you, that's it.

FINAL CALL FOR NEW BUSINESS:

Mr. Revoldt: Alright. We've all been waiting for the final call for business. Mr. Osborne, you're first. Five minutes.

Mr. Osborne: Thank you, I appreciate it. I guess I'll go around the room. Mr. Davies in response to your comment, I think I would be more concerned with our own deficits rather than a deficit of a \$400,000,000 a year corporation. And granted we all know groceries live on a tight budget or tight margins. But you're charged with being concerned with the deficits of North Canton which we're actually experiencing. And pretty soon we're probably going to see deficits with the schools. So that's how I would answer you. Mr. Revoldt, I am not taking any particular business to task, I am taking you leaders to task. And if you hadn't approached the Fred W. Albrecht Company and offered them the abatement we wouldn't even be here talking about this. As I said and I have to hand it to Mr. DeOrio I appreciate your candor and your honesty and your logic, clearly they've been laying the ground work for this. They got their liquor option - they plan on expanding their liquor and doing other things. This tax abatement is not a prerequisite for this whole project. And I'm heartedly glad that they're wanting to upgrade their stores which I've been told here probably are ready for an upgrade. The tax abatement is not a prerequisite for this project and if you evaluate all the other abatements we've given they weren't prerequisites for those either.
Unidentified: That's not true.

Mr. Osborne: Now as far as Viking Glass that one should have been terminated years ago. If you wait long enough for any corporation their salaries are going to gradually increase, their payroll is going to gradually increase and suddenly, magically oh now you finally meet the threshold of increased income - payroll. So if you wait long enough every company will meet your goals if that's how you want to classify it. Lastly, I've taken personal attacks up here every time when you cannot defend your position. Regarding my CRA abatement, we all know taxes the very bottom line is the

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homeowner, the individual, the taxes fall on their shoulders. Now, taxes for businesses can be priced into the price of their product and it's shared by all the consumers and it's tax deductible. And we heartedly depend on business because no community can survive strictly on property taxes from residential property owners. And again, the residential property owner cannot dissipate the burden of the taxes they fall squarely on him. Yes, I took advantage of it. My wife and I put about \$150,000 improvement in our property. It wasn't fiscally sound, but we're going to live there till we die. If you take a walk around any of these cities - Canton - I've been walking around Akron for the last month because we've gotten signatures to recall Mayor Plusquellic. You look at those neighborhoods in Akron every community should be doing something to maintain those neighborhoods. Mr. Revoldt, I can check with my wife and see if she wants to give up the tax abatement but I can't promise you right now. But when it comes to tax abatements for business, corporations, it's tax deductible for them. They can share the burden with their - through the cost of their product. So that's how I would explain that. You have something for me Mr. Revoldt?

Mr. Revoldt: Of course I do. First of all is I can defend my position - I can defend my position on this. Contrary to your assertion this is a case of business development and supporting a local business which is expanding. What I'm buying in effect is a discount on the project and message to a larger business community that this city supports business investment and is prepared in an effort to discount that project to offer a small CRA abatement - a; b is you do have a choice and this is not personal. You have raised the issue of abatements. You have done this and I am challenging your abatement. Simply put you do receive a tax advantage by paying less tax.

Mr. Osborne: And I have enhanced the neighborhood.

Mr. Revoldt: Not disputed. I just enhanced my neighborhood with a substantial investment to the exterior of my home today and I suspect that I will be paying a little more money as a result. I will not be taking a CRA tax abatement on that investment nor...

Mr. Osborne: It probably doesn't qualify. Did you just hear Mr. Bowles?

Mr. Revoldt: I would suspect - I would suspect sir that Mrs. Revoldt's recent kitchen adventure might qualify for that abatement. There is no application from 1565 Ambler and I'm not hiding behind my wife. The fact of the matter is you have taken an abatement it benefits you by virtue of your relationship. And I'm simply pointing out that as I defend my position that yours might be a tad weaker than you presumed. We're delighted that you've invested.

Mr. Osborne: Mr. Revoldt, that isn't the issue at hand.

Mr. Revoldt: Yes it is.

Mr. Osborne: Mr. Albrecht is not needing this abatement. It's not a prerequisite.

Mr. Revoldt: I understand that.

Mr. Osborne: This has just been thrown on him because you can do it.

Mr. Revoldt: Chuck, first of all please listen this Council did not throw it on him. But there are two reasons why you can ... and both of which are legitimate. The first is as Mr. DeOrio has suggested the project is contingent on the support.

Mr. Osborne: It is not contingent upon this abatement.

Mr. Revoldt: Now wait a second. Does your wife tolerate interruptions when she's in the classroom?

Mr. Osborne: If you don't continue talking I figure it's my time to interject.

Mr. Revoldt: I do have an opportunity to breathe. Number one is - number one is you're right, this project provides a - this abatement provides a small discount for doing the project.

Mr. Osborne: That was not asked for.

Mr. Revoldt: Number two, is in my opinion the value of this abatement is that it clearly supports the notion that this community is business friendly. That it is willing to forgo a small amount of revenue to attract additional investment in jobs. That is my position. Now does that marketing advantage help us in the long run? In my opinion and no one else speaks for me here, I speak for no one else, my belief is it does.

Mr. Osborne: You're undermining your own tax system.

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Mr. Revoldt: No, I'm deferring income and that's what's important to bear in mind. I'm not - it's not that I'm not collecting money that - I'm not collecting money that or I'm not handing money back, I'm simply not collecting money for a period of time. Why, because at this particular juncture in this city's history the appearance of being business friendly in a very modest and small way to this particular councilman is important. Now...

Mr. Osborne: Daryl...

Mr. Revoldt: Your shot...

Mr. Osborne: I didn't even have to go up - Mr. DeOrio didn't even have to go up there and talk to them and find out they didn't expect it. From a great distance he can see that ...

Mr. Revoldt: I understand. Look...

Mr. Osborne: you know it doesn't even look like they even expected this. Why are they getting it?

Mr. Revoldt: Look as I indicated there was an application made, it was signed by the ...

Mr. Osborne: Somebody encouraged them and said hey we can shower money on you...

Mr. Revoldt: Well let's put Mr. Bowles on the ...

Mr. Osborne: in spite of our deficits. Now next week you're going to be up saying we're in dire difficulty again.

Mr. Revoldt: Maybe I will be.

Mr. Osborne: So how can you sit here tonight...

Mr. Revoldt: Chuck, for the same reason six months ago you stood here in front of us and castigated us for investing in some cranes.

Mr. Osborne: And I'll be proved right on that one as well.

Mr. Revoldt: Mr. Osborne, I suspect that I will more likely see success across the street than I will see you surrender your abatement.

Mr. Osborne: What am I getting in return?

Mr. Revoldt: You're getting six hundred bucks.

Mr. Osborne: If I surrender my tax abatement what are you going to give me in return?

Mr. Revoldt: I'm going to give you...

Mr. Osborne: Are you going to ask Albrecht to defer on their abatement?

Mr. Revoldt: I'm going to give you the satisfaction to be named in this Council as a man of principle.

Mr. Osborne: Let's turn it into personal that's all you can do because you can't defend this.

Mr. Revoldt: No, I'm not. I'm defending my position by pointing out...

Mr. DeOrio: I move we adjourn.

Mr. Davies: I second it.

Mr. Revoldt: That you are ... it's been moved and seconded. Clerk call the roll.

ADJOURN:

Mr. DeOrio moved and Mr. Davies seconded to adjourn the council meeting. All members present voting:

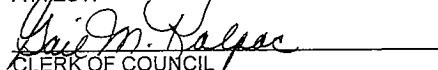
Yes: Kiesling, Peters, Revoldt, Snyder, Davies, DeOrio, Foltz.

No: 0

The meeting adjourned at 8:33 p.m.


PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL

ATTEST:


CLERK OF COUNCIL